

**The Crucible, Act IV**, by Arthur Miller**Vocabulary Builder****Using Words From Myths**

Myths are fictional stories that account for natural phenomena or explain actions of gods. As English was developing, many writers and speakers were familiar with classical learning, including mythology. Thus, English includes names and stories from the myths of various cultures, and many words originate in these ancient tales.

**A. DIRECTIONS:** Use a dictionary or other resource to explain the mythological origins of the following words.

1. echo \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. volcano \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. museum \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Using the Word List**

agape	conciliatory	beguile	floundering	retaliation
adamant	cleave	sibilance	tantalized	purged

**B. DIRECTIONS:** Match each word in the left column with its definition in the right column. Write the letter of the definition on the line next to the word it defines.

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| ___ 1. agape        | A. hissing    |
| ___ 2. conciliatory | B. cling      |
| ___ 3. beguile      | C. tempted    |
| ___ 4. floundering  | D. purified   |
| ___ 5. retaliation  | E. open       |
| ___ 6. adamant      | F. charm      |
| ___ 7. cleave       | G. reprisal   |
| ___ 8. sibilance    | H. resolute   |
| ___ 9. tantalized   | I. appeasing  |
| ___ 10. purged      | J. struggling |